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PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/593,483
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111PATENT
NON-FINALIN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0028] beginning on page 20, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] It is desirable that a pre-filled syringe 2 that is another example of the present invention has, among the above-mentioned characteristics, (1), (2), (7) and (8), and additionally (9), (10) and (11). Concretely, as shown in Fig. 9 to Fig. 13, its basic construction is approximately the same as example 1. The pre-filled syringe 2 as shown in Fig. 9, comprises a nozzle member 220 provided with a nozzle sealed by a cap 250, a barrel 210, a bypass 213 and a plunger rod 240. Differences are a shape of an intermediate gasket 270 and a shape of [[a]] the bypass 213. Hereinafter, there are explained the points of difference. As shown in Fig. 10, in the intermediate gasket 270, a bypass communication passage 272 comprising a first groove 272a extending from a tip side in a base end direction and a second groove 272b extending from a base end side in a tip direction are formed symmetrically with respect to a center axis. Thus, there is formed a zigzag structure in which a tip of the second groove 272b is located in a tip side relative to the base end of the first groove 272a, and the first groove 272a and the second groove are mutually separated. Further, plural annular ribs 271a are formed in a

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circumferential direction of a side face of the intermediate gasket 270, these annular ribs 271a contact an inner wall of a barrel 210, and annular grooves 271b (formed between the annular ribs 271a) and the annular ribs 271a do not mutually communicate and are separated also from the first groove 272a and also from the second groove 272b. Incidentally, the bypass 13 of example 1 is formed in the axial direction of the barrel 10, whereas the bypass 213 of example 2 is formed in a circumferential direction of the barrel 210.